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**Subject:** Weekend Report from R8

## **Weekend Report from R8**

*Deseret Minor NSR Permit* -- On March 14, 2016, the minor NSR permit for the Deseret Power Electric Cooperative Bonanza Power Plant became final and effective. In addition, no petitions to review the permit were filed. Pursuant to the settlement agreement with WEG, Sierra Club and Deseret, the Region has 10 days to provide notice of withdrawal of the 2014 proposed PSD permit. The notice is prepared and will be posted on the Region's website this week. Within the same 10 days, WEG and Sierra Club will file motions to dismiss all pending petitions before the EAB, its lawsuit against the BLM and withdraw the pending FOIA requests with EPA. Deseret is moving forward with installing controls this spring. The key provisions of the Settlement Agreement include these permit terms: 1) Installation of emission controls for NOx, which should reduce NOx emissions by about 4,000 tons per year; and 2) An overall cap on the amount of coal that can be used by the plant, which is estimated to be reached in 2030 assuming current coal use.

*Utah Regional Haze* – The 60 day comment period for the Utah Regional Haze SIP/FIP proposed rule closed March 14, 2016. The Region received over 60,000 comments. We received approximately 55,000 mass mailer email comments supporting the FIP from HEAL (1,000), NPCA (14,000), and Sierra Club (40,000). In addition, HQ received approximately 40,000 such emails. The final rule must be signed by June 1, 2016 due to a consent decree deadline.

*Dakota Access Pipeline (ND)* – On March 11<sup>th</sup>, R8 sent supplemental comments to the Army Corps, Omaha District, regarding Dakota Access Pipeline Draft Environmental Assessment. On Wednesday, we received word that Chairman Archambault from the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe (with whom you met to discuss this issue on March 2) was “very pleased with EPA’s supplemental letter.” We also learned that DOI informed the Tribe that they would also be sending a letter to the Corps regarding the project. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation also sent a letter to on 3/15/16 raising concerns.

*Sen. Tester Tour of CFAC* – On March 24, Sen. Tester will tour the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company site that has been proposed to the NPL. EPA is currently overseeing a remedial investigation (RI) being conducted by Columbia Falls Aluminum Company to identify the nature and extent of contamination at the Site. Joining Sen. Tester on the tour will be representatives from WY DEQ, local mayor and county commissioner, Glencore (which owns the site), and media. R8’s CFAC lead, Mike Cirian will also join.

*Meeting with Gov. Herbert* – On Wed., March 24, I will meet with Gov. Herbert and representatives of the oil & gas industry operating in the Uinta Basin to discuss the possible FIP on the U&O Reservation to address VOC emissions. I may have a possible sidebar meeting with state officials, BLM and Newfield to discuss BLM’s Monument Butte EIS, although the schedule has not yet been confirmed. On Monument Butte, should that be discussed, I’m coordinating closely with Cynthia and Janet.

*Andrew Johnson Consent Decree* – Over the past couple of years, Cynthia and I have reported out on this dam/fishing pond in Wyoming that was constructed without a 404 permit. Great news! Mr. Johnson has signed the CD. DOJ's goal is to lodge the CD by the middle of this week.

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